

**Harbor Committee Minutes**  
**September 20, 2012**

Members present: Arnie Nelson, Tab Butler, Charles Meech, Gary Krubsack and Gary Russell (12:15 pm).  
Members absent: Michael Childers, Tim Eldred, alternate and Bob Kron, Alternate.  
Ex-Officio present: Pete Clark, Town Administrator; Keith Sowl, Town Foreman  
SmithGroup present: Jason Stangland, JJR and Bill Brose, JJR.  
Public present: David Thomas

**1. Call to order.**

A quorum of the committee is present as reflected in members listed above. No chair or vice-chair is present. Motion by C. Meech to appoint A. Nelson to chair this meeting, second, G. Krubsack. All in favor all aye, motion carried.

Meeting called to order by A. Nelson.

Appointment of a chair and vice chair will be placed on the next agenda.

A. Nelson turns the Harbor Committee meeting over to Pete Clark, Town Administrator.

P. Clark has been communicating with Jason Stangland, SmithGroup JJR in regards to the Harbor Improvement Project and would like to update committee members as to what has been discussed. To be noted is that on October 11, 2012 the Army Corp of Engineers and the Dept of Natural Resources (DNR) will meet to discuss various permitting issues.

P. Clark now turns the meeting over to Jason Stangland and Bill Brose of SmithGroup JJR.

**2. Meet with the SmithGroup JJR and the WI-DNR regarding the status and prospects of the Harbor Improvement Project.**

Jason said he, Bill Brose and P. Clark, Town Administrator met with Ed Slaminski, DNR Community Specialist this morning. Ed Slaminski deals primarily with recreational type of grants. Ed was given the Harbor Feasibility Study which Ed will review.

Jason said there will be 4-7 more meetings regarding other type of grants and estimates that Task 1 (Developing the grant/funding matrix for the Town Dock and Shoreline and Special Anchorage Area) will be completed in the next 3-4 weeks. At this time there are 4 programs where funds could be found.

The Town Dock and Public pier would be more of an Economic Development Project rather than a recreational project. Ed Slaminski had agreed but suggested that the Town Dock/Public Pier project could be applicable to the Recreational Trails Program which includes some of the following: public restrooms, waiting areas, trailheads and shelters such as the former Island Thyme store or the Post Office. The grant application would have to show a strong case of connection from a regional trail system to a local trails system.

Trails Program – every 3 years the Trails Program has \$200,000 for grants. Each year the Trails Program has \$45,000 available. This is a 50/50 matching grant and has to be multi-use.

Stewardship grants have limited applicability.

Recreational Boating Grants do have funds available. Projects such as the Town Dock or public piers for transient docking would not qualify for funds. Recreational Boating Grants would fund a project such as the South Harbor project, but the South Harbor is not being pursued.

Recreational Boating grants would have an interest in the Special Anchorage area. The Boating Infrastructure Program might also have funding for the Special Anchorage area.

Jason said they will talk to Diane Conklin about the Town Dock to see if there is any way to attach transient dockage to the Boating Infrastructure Program. Since a fishing pier is included

in the public pier this would be considered multi-use. Diane administers statewide applications and works directly with Ed Slaminski.

Ed Slaminski is looking to see if the Recreational Boating grants could be applied to the mooring field of the Special Anchorage area and if the Recreational Trails grant would be applicable to the Town Dock.

Jason will set up a meeting with Economic Development and Coastal Management.

G. Russell is now present (12:15) and is given a synopsis of the meeting.

Jason opens the floor for questions.

A. Nelson said the October 11, 2012 meeting with the Army Corp and DNR regarding permitting is very important as permitting takes a long time. The agencies that have money really like a project that is ready to go so this committee needs to come up with the type of recreational dock in order to apply for funds. The Town Dock would be sheet metal; what are the options for the dock off of Main Street?

Several options discussed: Crib type, bin wall or a floating attenuator (A floating structure that can act also as a floating breakwater).

Jason asked what the specific goals are for this dock. Seaplanes, transient docking and fishing had been discussed during the listening sessions. Committee would like to see transient docking and fishing as those users would spend money in downtown La Pointe.

The main concern would be how the dock would hold up in ice.

G. Krubsack asked if we want to back a vehicle or dump truck on to that dock. Will there be a boat launch ramp next to the dock?

Jason thought it had been decided that this dock would be for recreational or boating use; Ed Slaminski had thought this area would be used as a secondary ice road.

A. Nelson said there is a ramp in one of the 13' sections the Town owns. The Town owns another 13' section that could be added on to but then there would be a continual dredging problem. If the dock were moved over the dock would be on private property. There is not much room for a ramp and a dock.

G. Russell asked if there would be finger piers. Question if the fingers would encroach on riparian owner's rights. Jason said there would be space for 4 to 8 boats.

Utilities on the dock? Agreement that overnight use is not encouraged. Jason said this needs discussion as agencies with funds could see this as a benefit.

K. Sowl asked if recreational boating grants would cover transient boating. Jason said no.

K. Sowl asked if they would fund a fishing pier. Jason said he will talk to Diane Conklin. If they are interested in putting in a launch ramp for trailerable boats the idea of having transient docking is there.

K. Sowl said one of the big points from the listening sessions was that local people do not have a place to tie up their boat. If local people could buy a spot for the summer and keep their boat there for a week at a time that would be considered permanent. Jason said there is lack of protection so the boats could not tie up overnight. G. Russell suggested putting finger piers on the more protected north side.

Discussion that more local people are interested in fishing/charters/commuting. If there are only 6-8 slips there would be no room for transient docking and that would defeat the purpose of getting people to spend money in downtown La Pointe.

G. Russell said what is needed is small slips for local boats. A. Nelson agrees but asked if this is the right place. G. Krupsack said the South Harbor is the right place.

Jason said the Recreational Boating Fund agency is interested in the South Harbor as well as the Army Corp under Section 107 but the South Harbor is not in their scope. However, Jason could submit an informal report, a letter of interest similar to what the City of Washburn submitted to granting agencies. An answer would be at least a year or two away so if the Town, at that time, is not interested the Town would just say no. Jason will send Section 107 details to P. Clark. Jason said the Harbor Assistant Program has more applicability in regards to dredging and improvements. The Economic Development Corp would also be applicable.

K. Sowl leaves the meeting (12:30 pm)

P. Clark said the committee needs to identify the nature of the fishing pier. Discussion of binwall, cribbing, floating docks. These could be bid out, see how they come in on price and what kind of money would be available to pay for them.

Type of coating, concrete boxes, cribs, floating docks, ice and designs that might work in this area discussed. Jason said he would want to talk to John Spangberg's (DNR) replacement and other regulatory agencies in regards to design.

Suggestion to put in solar panel with an LED light. Discussion of length of dock and if there is enough room for the Ferry boats.

SmithGroup JJR will send some drawings for the next meeting.

Motion by G. Krubsack to send out two letters of intent for the South Harbor and the Town Dock. Second, T. Butler. All in favor all ayes, Motion carried.

Jason and Bill will set up meetings with the various agencies and report back to the committee. The goal is to have a document completed for Task 1 in the next month or so.

### **3. Adjourn.**

Motion by G. Russell to adjourn, second, G. Krubsack. All in favor, all aye, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 12:45 PM.

Minutes taken from recorder and respectfully submitted by Kathy Erickson, Clerical Assistant  
Minutes approved as presented January 16, 2013